

IN THE CLAIMS

1 (currently amended): A process ~~Process~~ for the preparation of LiAlH_4 solutions, in which solution comprising reacting lithium hydride reacts with an aluminium halide in diethyl ether to give yield lithium aluminium hydride, and the removing any lithium halide which arises ~~is separated off, characterised in that~~ formed during the reacting, adding a solvent with which the complexing energy of which with LiAlH_4 is greater than the complexing energy of diethyl ether with LiAlH_4 ~~is then added, and the~~ removing diethyl ether ~~is removed by~~ distillation to yield the LiAlH_4 solution.

2 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to Claim 1, characterised in that ~~one or more ethers are utilised as the solvent~~ wherein said solvent is at least one ether other than diethyl ether.

3 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to Claim 1 ~~or 2,~~ characterised in that wherein said solvent is selected from the group consisting of tetrahydrofuran (THF), 2-methyltetrahydrofuran or an ether from the group comprising 2- methyltetrahydrofuran, and an ethyl glycol. ~~ethers (such as monoglycol dimethyl ether, monoglycol diethyl ether, diglycol dimethyl ether, diglycol diethyl ether or diglycol dibutyl ether) is utilised as the solvent~~

4 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to ~~one of Claims 1 to 3,~~ characterised in that Claim 1, wherein said aluminum halide is AlCl_3 is utilised as the aluminium halide.

5 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to ~~one of Claims 1 to 4,~~ characterised in that the synthesis Claim 1, wherein solution of LiAlH_4 in diethyl ether is concentrated by distilling off the diethyl ether.

6 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to ~~one of Claims 1 to 5, characterised in that~~ Claim 1, wherein a quantity of solvent at least equivalent (on a molar basis) to the residual diethyl ether quantity is added.

7 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to ~~one of Claims 1 to 6, characterised in that~~ Claim 5, wherein the diethyl ether is distilled off under vacuum at temperatures of from 40 to 80°C.

8 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to Claim 7, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the distillation takes place at temperatures of from 55 to 65°C.

9 (currently amended): The process ~~Process~~ according to ~~one of Claims 1 to 8, characterised in that~~ Claim 1, wherein the LiAlH_4 solution is diluted with a hydrocarbon.